



Members:

Rep. Charlie Brown, Chair
Rep. Jeffrey Linder
Sen. James Lewis
Sen. Patricia Miller

LSA Staff:

James Mundt, Fiscal Analyst for the Subcommittee
Philip J. Sachtleben, Attorney for the Subcommittee

Authority: IC 2-5-21-6

LEGISLATIVE EVALUATION AND OVERSIGHT POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

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MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: June 17, 1998
Meeting Time: 11:00 A.M.
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St., 156-A
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 1

Members Present: Rep. Charlie Brown, Chair; Sen. Patricia Miller, Vice-Chair ; Sen. James Lewis .

Members Absent: Rep. Jeffrey Linder.

Rep. Brown called the meeting to order and asked the members present to introduce themselves. He advised the subcommittee that it had two major responsibilities for the interim. First, to make a recommendation to the Legislative Council relating to topics to be studied during 1999. Second, the subcommittee is to make recommendations concerning two assigned topics: 1) the restructuring of interim committees, and 2) the automatic termination of interim or statutory committees that fail to meet at least twice per interim.

Discussion of Issues Assigned

After discussion by the subcommittee, it was agreed that there should be a meeting which will deal exclusively with the issues relating to interim committees. It was decided that the meeting would be held after the next meeting of the subcommittee which would be for the purpose of finalizing a recommendation to the Legislative Council concerning 1999 study topics. The Legislative Services Agency was directed to prepare a report showing the allocation of staff resources during the interim. In addition, a report will be prepared showing interim committee membership under existing practice compared to membership using assignments based on standing committee membership. This approach was proposed in SB 211-98.

Discussion of Topics Requested for Study by Legislators

Rep. Brown referred to a memorandum prepared by Jim Mundt of the Legislative Services Agency. The memo described potential study topics, the first of which is described as "agencies and programs with management and administration as their major functions". This area is suggested by statute.

The balance of the memo listed topics requested by legislators. One of those calls for a study of non-taxable land owned by the federal or state governments in Indiana. This request had been made by Rep. Mangus and the Agricultural Matters Evaluation Committee. After discussion, a motion was adopted to direct the Legislative Services Agency to prepare a report with respect to such land by the next meeting of the subcommittee on August 3. The subcommittee intends to provide the report to the Governor's Citizens' Commission on Taxes.

After discussion concerning the remaining topics, the subcommittee decided to send another letter to all legislators requesting their opinion on the remaining topics and invite them to suggest additional topics before the next meeting of the subcommittee. The topic suggested by statute and the other topics which had already been submitted along with the year in which they will be considered for recommendation according to the schedule found in IC 2-5-21-10 are:

1. The area suggested for study by law (IC 2-5-21-10) for 1999 is "agencies and programs with management and administration as their major functions". The Council has the authority to assign the study of all, a part of, or no part of this area. The major agencies and programs which would be studied if the Subcommittee recommends adhering to the suggested schedule would be: the Department of Administration, the State Personnel Department, the Data Processing Oversight Commission, the Commission on Public Records, the State Office Building Commission, the Ethics Commission, and any other agency or program related to management and administration.

The following were submitted by legislators:

2. An evaluation of the Health Professions Bureau. (Agencies and programs with human services as their major function will be considered for 2003, also health matters for 2007).

3. An evaluation of the ISTEP+ graduation examination and its impact on learning disabled students. (Agencies and programs with education matters as their major function will be considered for 2002).

4. A study of short line railroad carriers. (Not scheduled).

5. An evaluation of the Department of Correction. (Agencies and programs with corrections or judicial matters as their major function will be considered for 2000).

6. A study of alternative education. (2002).

7. A study of State Troopers and their duties related to gambling boats. (Agencies and programs with public safety matters as their major function will be considered for 2001).

The next meeting of the subcommittee will be on August 3, 1998 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 156-A. There being no further business, Rep. Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.